

§ 1780.9

12 CFR Ch. XVII (1–1–06 Edition)

that was neither on the record nor on reasonable prior notice to all parties that takes place between—

(i) An interested person outside OFHEO (including the person's representative); and

(ii) The presiding officer handling that proceeding, the Director, a decisional employee assigned to that proceeding, or any other person who is or may reasonably be expected to be involved in the decisional process.

(2) A communication that does not concern the merits of an adjudicatory proceeding, such as a request for status of the proceeding, does not constitute an ex parte communication.

(b) *Prohibition of ex parte communications.* From the time the notice commencing the proceeding is issued by the Director until the date that the Director issues his final decision pursuant to § 1780.55, no person referred to in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section shall knowingly make or cause to be made an ex parte communication. The Director, presiding officer, or a decisional employee shall not knowingly make or cause to be made an ex parte communication.

(c) *Procedure upon occurrence of ex parte communication.* If an ex parte communication is received by any person identified in paragraph (a) of this section, that person shall cause all such written communications (or, if the communication is oral, a memorandum stating the substance of the communication) to be placed on the record of the proceeding and served on all parties. All parties to the proceeding shall have an opportunity, within ten days of receipt of service of the ex parte communication, to file responses thereto and to recommend any sanctions, in accordance with paragraph (d) of this section, that they believe to be appropriate under the circumstances.

(d) *Sanctions.* Any party or representative for a party who makes an ex parte communication, or who encourages or solicits another to make any such communication, may be subject to any appropriate sanction or sanctions imposed by the Director or the presiding officer, including, but not limited to, exclusion from the proceedings and an adverse ruling on the

issue that is the subject of the prohibited communication.

(e) *Consultations by presiding officer.* Except to the extent required for the disposition of ex parte matters as authorized by law, the presiding officer may not consult a person or party on any matter relevant to the merits of the adjudication, unless on notice and opportunity for all parties to participate.

(f) *Separation of functions.* An employee or agent engaged in the performance of investigative or prosecuting functions for OFHEO in a case may not, in that or a factually related case, participate or advise in the decision, recommended decision, or Director review under § 1780.55 of the recommended decision, except as witness or counsel in public proceedings.

§ 1780.9 Filing of papers.

(a) *Filing.* Any papers required to be filed shall be addressed to the presiding officer and filed with OFHEO, 1700 G Street, NW., Fourth Floor, Washington, DC 20552.

(b) *Manner of filing.* Unless otherwise specified by the Director or the presiding officer, filing shall be accomplished by:

(1) Personal service;

(2) Delivery to the U.S. Postal Service or to a reliable commercial delivery service for same day or overnight delivery;

(3) Mailing by first class, registered, or certified mail; or

(4) Transmission by electronic media, only if expressly authorized by and upon any conditions specified by the Director or the presiding officer. All papers filed by electronic media shall also concurrently be filed in accordance with paragraph (c) of this section.

(c) *Formal requirements as to papers filed—*(1) *Form.* All papers must set forth the name, address and telephone number of the representative or party making the filing and must be accompanied by a certification setting forth when and how service has been made on all other parties. All papers filed must be double-spaced and printed or typewritten on 8½×11-inch paper and must be clear and legible.

(2) *Signature.* All papers must be dated and signed as provided in § 1780.7.

(3) *Caption.* All papers filed must include at the head thereof, or on a title page, the name of OFHEO and of the filing party, the title and docket number of the proceeding and the subject of the particular paper.

(4) *Number of copies.* Unless otherwise specified by the Director or the presiding officer, an original and one copy of all documents and papers shall be filed, except that only one copy of transcripts of testimony and exhibits shall be filed.

§ 1780.10 Service of papers.

(a) *By the parties.* Except as otherwise provided, a party filing papers or serving a subpoena shall serve a copy upon the representative of record for each party to the proceeding so represented and upon any party not so represented.

(b) *Method of service.* Except as provided in paragraphs (c)(2) and (d) of this section, a serving party shall use one or more of the following methods of service:

(1) Personal service;

(2) Delivery to the U.S. Postal Service or to a reliable commercial delivery service for same day or overnight delivery;

(3) Mailing by first class, registered, or certified mail; or

(4) Transmission by electronic media, only if the parties mutually agree. Any papers served by electronic media shall also concurrently be served in accordance with the requirements of § 1780.9(c).

(c) *By the Director or the presiding officer.* (1) All papers required to be served by the Director or the presiding officer upon a party who has appeared in the proceeding in accordance with § 1780.72 shall be served by any means specified in paragraph (b) of this section.

(2) If a notice of appearance has not been filed in the proceeding for a party in accordance with § 1780.72, the Director or the presiding officer shall make service upon the party by any of the following methods:

(i) By personal service;

(ii) If the person to be served is an individual, by delivery to a person of suitable age and discretion at the physical location where the individual resides or works;

(iii) If the person to be served is a corporation or other association, by delivery to an officer, managing or general agent, or to any other agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service and, if the agent is one authorized by statute to receive service and the statute so requires, by also mailing a copy to the party;

(iv) By registered or certified mail addressed to the person's last known address; or

(v) By any other method reasonably calculated to give actual notice.

(d) *Subpoenas.* Service of a subpoena may be made:

(1) By personal service;

(2) If the person to be served is an individual, by delivery to a person of suitable age and discretion at the physical location where the individual resides or works;

(3) If the person to be served is a corporation or other association, by delivery to an officer, managing or general agent, or to any other agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service and, if the agent is one authorized by statute to receive service and the statute so requires, by also mailing a copy to the party; or

(4) By registered or certified mail addressed to the person's last known address; or

(5) By any other method reasonably calculated to give actual notice.

(e) *Area of service.* Service in any State, commonwealth, possession, territory of the United States or the District of Columbia on any person doing business in any State, commonwealth, possession, territory of the United States or the District of Columbia, or on any person as otherwise permitted by law, is effective without regard to the place where the hearing is held.

(f) *Proof of service.* Proof of service of papers filed by a party shall be filed before action is taken thereon. The proof of service, which shall serve as *prima facie* evidence of the fact and date of service, shall show the date and manner of service and may be by written acknowledgment of service, by declaration of the person making service, or by certificate of a representative of record. However, failure to file proof of service contemporaneously with the papers shall not affect the validity of